

THE STATE ADJUTANTS LETTER



KANSAS DEPARTMENT



1314 SW TOPEKA BLVD. TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1886

SEPTEMBER 2026

SCHOLARSHIPS: Information on all American Legion Scholarships is available on the Department website: kansaslegion.org. Copies may also be obtained from this office. Contact your nearest High School counselor's office to make sure this information is available to students. Don't deprive a young person in your community of the opportunity these programs offer. Have copies available at your Post Home for interested students and let members know they are available. The Hugh A. Smith, Ted and Nora Anderson, and Albert M. Lappin Scholarships are available to children of Legion or Auxiliary members. The Music and Shooting Sports are available to any qualified student. These are all due February 15. The Sons of the American Legion scholarships are available on their website salks.org/resources. These are also due February 15. The Eagle Scout of the Year is available to Eagle Scouts who are either members of Troops sponsored by Legion Posts or the son or grandson of Legion members is due March 1. The Oratorical Contest information will be mailed to the Posts and Schools after District locations and contests are finalized.

EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE: Enclosed is the information for this year's Eisenhower Pilgrimage scheduled for Saturday, October 17 in Abilene. All Posts are encouraged to have someone at the Eisenhower Center to place their Post's Memorial Rose, however Department will furnish a representative for your Post should no one be available from your Post. Deadline for ordering a Memorial Rose or District Wreath is October 1.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EISENHOWER PILGRIMAGE - THE HOMECOMING FOR Department Vice Commander Ed Boring, Department Vice President Laurie Kerns, and S.A.L. Detachment Vice Commander Jeff Kerns will be held on October 17, 2026 at the Greyhound Hall of Fame which is directly adjacent to the Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene at 12:00pm. The menu is: Roast Beef or Italian Chicken. Cost of the Luncheon is \$20.00 at the Door (\$15.00 if pre-registered by 5 October 2026) and catered by Joe Snuffy's. Reservations and monies are to be sent to: Jeff Kerns, 6023 SE 23rd Street, Topeka, KS 66614.

More information and a coupon for ordering a Rose or a Wreath, and the Vice Commander/Vice President's Homecoming is enclosed and in the Sunflower Legionnaire.

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FREE INSURANCE: As previously reported there have been a few changes to the free Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance program. It is now called LegionCare and while it still pays \$1,000 for an Accidental Death or Dismemberment, if the accident occurs while attending or traveling to and from an American Legion event or activity the benefit increases to \$5,000. However, every member desiring coverage under the group must enroll to begin the term of their individual coverage under the group policy. Enrollment forms are available, and enrollment can be accomplished or verified at 1-800-235-6943 and on the website www.theLIT.com. Make sure your members have this information. The No-Cost AD&D policy is just one benefit of your American Legion Membership. There is no obligation to purchase additional coverage.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL was back in full swing this year. Pittsburg Post # 64 won the Class A (previously the AAA) Tournament that was held in Pittsburg, and they went on the National Great Lakes Regional 5 Tournament that was held in Lexington, Kentucky. Marysville Post # 163 won the Class B (previously the AA) Tournament that was held in Hiawatha. Pittsburg Post # 64 won the Class C (previously the A) Tournament that was also held in Pittsburg. It was great to see Our Young People playing and enjoying the National Past time this year!

THE BIG RED 'I' TURKEY RUN: is tentatively scheduled to be held on Fort Riley on 21 November 2026 and Operation North Pole is tentatively scheduled for 5 December 2026. (Both of these Events are waiting on confirmation from the United States Army Agency). Donation of specific items and/or funds will be posted on the Kansas Legion Website later this month. These are wonderful events and they are enjoyed and very helpful to those Soldiers that need a boost during this time of the year.

DISTRICT STANDINGS AS OF AUGUST 18, 2026: District II, 1,571 – 51.64%; District I, 1,004 – 51.36%; District XI, 740 - 46.60%; District X, 472 – 46.41%; District VII, 577 – 45.87%, District IV, 435 – 42.11%; District III, 710 – 42.06%; District V, 977 – 41.57; District VIII, 215 – 34.68%; District IX, 258 – 33.25% and District VI, 343 – 29.80%. Department Headquarters Post 58 (included in Dept. total) is 608. Total membership submitted is 7,910. Membership Goal is 17,235. Membership Percentage of Department Goal is 45.89%. Membership last year this date was 8,719. We are BEHIND 809 members!

IN ORDER TO AVOID RECEIVING THE NEXT RENEWAL NOTICE ALL PAID MEMBERS' CARDS MUST BE IN THIS OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 10, 2026.